

# Weekly Current Affairs

20 –26 Dec, 2020

make  exam

Download India's #1 Competitive Exam Prep. App



[www.makemyexam.in](http://www.makemyexam.in)



[support@makemyexam.in](mailto:support@makemyexam.in)

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **1. PM Narendra Modi held Virtual Summit with the PM of Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc on 21 dec**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held Virtual Summit with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc.
- During the Summit, the two leaders will exchange views on wide-ranging bilateral, regional and global issues and provide guidance for the future development of India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- In 2020, both countries continued high-level exchanges. Vice-President of Vietnam Ms. Dang Thi Ngoc Thinh came to India in February this year on an official visit.
- The 17th edition of the Joint Commission Meeting virtually co-chaired by the two Foreign Ministers was held on 25th August 2020. Defence Minister held an online meeting with his counterpart on 27th of last month.

### **2. UP Govt launches 'Varasat' campaign to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas**

- In Uttar Pradesh, the government has launched special campaign to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas. This is a first of its kind campaign to end the nagging land-related issues in the rural areas. It is aimed at eradicating the exploitation of the villagers in the name of 'Varasat' of land and property.
- This special campaign will continue till 15 th February next year. Our Lucknow correspondent reports that the campaign started on the initiatives of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath 'Varasat' will not only end the long pending land disputes, but will also put a check on the land mafia who generally target disputed lands especially in the rural areas.

### **3. PM Modi to launch 'SEHAT', Health Insurance Scheme for UT of J&K on 26th Dec**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch 'SEHAT' - Health Insurance Scheme for the entire Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on 26th of this month to cover the remaining One crore population which was not covered under Ayushman Bharat Scheme. Under Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), eligible beneficiaries were covered under Health Cover of Rs 5 Lakh.
- Under PMJAY scheme, 30 lakh people are being covered in J&K. With the launch of the 'SEHAT' Scheme by the Prime Minister on December 26, J&K will be among the first in the country to achieve Universal Health Coverage.

#### **4. India, Vietnam sign seven agreements during virtual summit**

- India and Vietnam signed seven agreements for cooperation in areas such as defence, petrochemicals and nuclear energy and unveiled a joint vision for peace and prosperity against the backdrop of concerns in both countries about China's aggressive actions across the region.
- Participating in a virtual summit with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Vietnam as "an important pillar of India's Act East policy and an important ally of our Indo-Pacific vision".

#### **5. PM Modi to address India-Japan Samvad Conference**

- This Samvad Conference revolves around the need to build the future of Asia on the positive influence of traditions of non-violence and democracy in Asia.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed India-Japan Samvad Conference at 9:30 am on Monday. Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan made the announcement of PM Modi's address through his Twitter handle.

#### **6. India's leopard population increases by 60%, reaches 12,852**

- The population of leopard in India has increased by 60 per cent, according to a report released by the government on Monday.
- The 'Status of Leopard in India 2018' report, released by Union environment minister Prakash Javadekar, said that India now has 12,852 leopards.
- States which have the highest number of leopards are Karnataka(1783) and Maharashtra(1690) who have recorded the highest leopard estimates.

#### **7. GOI introduce Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020**

- The Ministry announced the notification of the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020.
- These rules provide for rights of consumers and obligations of distribution licensees, release of new connection and modification in existing connection, metering arrangement, billing and payment, among others.
- An automatic compensation mechanism will be put in place. It will include no supply to a consumer beyond a particular duration and certain number of interruptions in supply, which will be specified by the regulatory commission.

#### **8. Cabinet gives nod to merger of 4 Film Media Units with NFDC**

- The Cabinet today approved the merger of Films Division, Directorate of Film Festivals, National Film Archives of India, and Children's Film Society, India with National Film Development Corporation.
- The Cabinet also approved the appointment of a Transaction Advisor and Legal Advisor who will advise on the transfer of assets and employees and oversee all aspects of operationalization of the merger. The interests of the employees of all the concerned Media Units will be fully taken care of and no employee will be retrenched.

### **9. Tamil Nadu grants permission to hold Jallikattu event, with certain restrictions**

- Tamil Nadu government has granted permission to hold Jallikattu event, with certain restrictions. The number of players should be not to be more than 150 at an event. It will be mandatory for the players to provide Covid-19 negative certificate.
- The state government has also specified that the number of spectators at the Jallikattu event should not be more than 50% of the gathering.

### **10. Karnataka unveils “FRUITS” portal for farmers**

- The Karnataka government has unveiled the Farmer Registration and Unified beneficiary Information System (FRUITS), an e-governance portal, to create a repository of farmland information and farm loan details on a single platform.
- All farmers will be registered and given an identification number on the portal. Using this number, banks and other lending institutions can access the land details of farmers as well as details of their existing borrowings and take a quick decision on lending. Canara Bank has agreed to run FRUITS on a pilot basis, according to an official statement.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS & FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

### **1. US bans China's chipmaker SMIC from using American technology**

- United States has banned China's top chipmaker SMIC from using American technology. US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said, the company perfectly illustrates the risks of China using US technology to modernize its military. He said, we will not allow advanced US technology to help build the military of an increasingly belligerent adversary.
- The US government has slapped harsh restrictions on Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC) as the Trump administration continues to pile pressure on Chinese firms during its final weeks. Dozens of Chinese companies, including SMIC and drone maker DJI, were added to the Commerce Department's Entity List, which effectively cuts them off from US suppliers and technology.



## 2. Nepal's President Bidhya Devi Bhandari dissolves parliament, declares mid-term polls

- Nepal President Bidhya Devi Bhandari dissolved parliament at the request of Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli's cabinet.
- President's office said in a statement that the elections will be held on April 30 and May 10 next year, more than a year ahead of schedule.
- Amid rising intra-party rift, Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli recommended to the President to dissolve the parliament at an emergency meeting of the Cabinet this morning.



### BANK & SSC LIVE COURSE

IBPS | SBI | RBI | CGL | CHSL | CPO | MTS

- ✓ 120+ Live Classes
- ✓ 100+ Mock Tests
- ✓ Daily Class Assignments
- ✓ Classes by IBT Expert



Starts from  
21st Sep.

**₹2800/-**  
~~₹7999/-~~

## 3. Singapore's 'Hawker' Culture Serving As 'community Dining Room' Gets UNESCO Recognition

- The Hawker Culture in Singapore, a popular Singaporean style of street dining and culinary practices in a multicultural urban environment has been recognized by UNESCO.
- The culture has made it to the UN's prestigious 'Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity' along with French cuisine, Thai massage, and yoga.
- UNESCO's 24-member international committee unanimously voted to include Singapore's Hawker culture into the list at a virtual conference.

## 4. World heritage site Mahavihara in Bodhgaya opens from 21 December

- In Bihar, the world heritage site Mahavihara in Bodhgaya has been opened from 21 December as per normal schedule from 5 am to 9 pm.
- The 80-foot Buddha statue in the heritage town has also been opened for visitors. This decision was taken by Bodh Gaya Temple Management

Committee (BTMC). The monasteries were closed since March 23 due to Covid -19 pandemic.

## **5. Israel heads to new elections as government collapses**

- Israel's divided government collapsed early on Wednesday, triggering the country's fourth election in under two years and bringing an unprecedented threat to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's lengthy grip on power.
- Mr. Netanyahu, who is used to labeling his opponents as weak leftists, finds himself confronted by a trio of disgruntled former aides who share his hard-line ideology, led by a popular lawmaker who recently broke away from the prime minister's Likud party.

## **6. UN Women and Kerala govt collaborates for India's first Gender Data Hub**

- The Kerala government and UN Women have collaborated to establish India's first Gender Data Hub. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in this regard on Monday in the presence of Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
- The Gender Hub builds on the goals established through the International Conference on Gender Equality held in November 2015, to collect, analyse and use more nuanced data and inform policy formulation in a manner that centre-stages women's rights.

## **New Appointments and Person in News**

### **1. China appoints new PLA General to head India border command**

- China has appointed a new People's Liberation Army (PLA) General to head its Western Theatre Command, its biggest military command which is responsible for the India border, replacing a long-standing General who oversaw a tumultuous four-year period that saw renewed border tensions.
- The announcement was made on Friday when President Xi Jinping, also chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), presented four military and armed police officers "with certificates of order promoting them to the rank of General," State media reported.

### **2. DMK president M.K Stalin launches "We reject the AIADMK" campaign**

- DMK president M.K. Stalin launched "We reject the AIADMK" campaign and called upon party workers to visit villages in their area for ten days from December 23.
- "Our goal is Mission-200 (Assembly seats). A party requires just 117 seats to form the government. But we are contesting not to secure just 117 seat. It will not make us proud. We cannot contend with even one seat less than

200," he said while addressing 1659 party workers from all the 234 Assembly constituencies.

- Mr. Stalin said he would launch his campaign from January 2021 as there were reports that the election could be advanced. "We have to prepare ourselves for the campaign early. The high-command will take care of alliances and candidates. Only those capable of winning the elections will be our candidates," he said.

### **3. SK Singhal appointed full-time DGP of Bihar**

- Senior IPS officer S K Singhal has been made the full-time Bihar Director General of Police, a government notification said.
- Singhal, who hails from Punjab, has been holding the additional charge of the DGP after Gupteshwar Pandey took VRS in September this year.
- "Sanjeev Kumar Singhal, a 1988 batch Bihar cadre IPS officer, currently holding the post of the DG-cum-Commandant General of Bihar Home Guards and Fire Services, is appointed as the DGP, Bihar, till further orders," said a Home Department notification issued.

## **BANKING**

### **1. RBI extends restrictions on PMC Bank by 3 months**

- A year after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed restrictions on Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank, depositors are still awaiting a resolution—although two scheduled commercial banks have been brought back from the brink in the meantime.
- In fact, RBI on Friday extended the restrictions on PMC Bank till 31 March 2021, subject to a review.

### **2. Central Bank of India launches contactless debit card in association with NPCI**

- State-owned Central Bank of India NSE 3.89 % on Tuesday said it has launched contactless 'RuPay Select' debit card in association with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- The card was launched by Central Bank of India MD and CEO Pallav Mohapatra in the presence of NPCI MD and CEO Dilip Asbe, at a virtual event on the bank's Foundation Day.
- Users of Central Bank RuPay Select Debit Card can avail complementary membership and concessional access to golf courses, gyms, spas and restaurants, the bank said.

### **3. NCAER projects GDP contraction of 7.3% in FY21**

- The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has estimated that India's GDP is likely to contract by 7.3 per cent in the current financial year.
- In its mid-year review of the Indian economy, the NCAER said that the long-term effects of the pandemic will last for years.
- "Following the steep decline in GDP in 2020 Q1, the recovery in Q2 was surprisingly sharp. Accordingly, we have revised our growth forecasts for Q3, Q4 and the full year 2020-21 to 0.1 per cent, 2 per cent and (-) 7.3 per cent respectively," the economic think tank said.
- In the June-September quarter, India's GDP on a year-on-year basis contracted by (-) 7.5 per cent from (-) 23.9 per cent in the preceding quarter.

#### **4. Bank of Baroda signs MoU with defence forces for new Baroda Military Salary package**

- Public sector lender Bank of Baroda NSE 2.98 % (BoB) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard under which the bank would offer customised services along with a host of facilities to account holders. The bank has also renewed its existing MoU with the Indian Army to offer specially customised banking services through 'Baroda Military Salary Package'.
- The package offers very attractive benefits including free Personal Accidental Insurance cover, Permanent Total Disability cover, Partial disability Cover and Air Accident Insurance Cover of sizeable amounts, as well as Higher Education Cover and Girl Child Marriage Cover on death in case of serving personnel, BoB Executive Director Vikramaditya Singh Khichi said.

#### **5. Centre govt and World Bank sign USD 500 million project to build Green National Highway Corridors**

- The Centre and the World Bank today signed a USD 500 million project to build safe and green national highway corridors .The project will also enhance the capacity of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in mainstreaming safety and green technologies.
- The Green National Highways Corridors Project will support the Road Transport and Highways Ministry to construct 783 kilometres of highways in various geographies by integrating safe and green technology designs such as local and marginal materials, industrial byproducts and other bioengineering solutions. The project will help reduce GHG emissions in the construction and maintenance of highways.

### **SCIENCE TECH & DEFENCE**

#### **1. India-Maldives Defence Cooperation Webinar and Expo held on 20 December**



- A webinar and expo between India and Maldives was held on 20 December. The theme of the webinar was 'Joint Indo Maldives High Level Defence Engagement'. It was organised under the aegis of Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence through Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- This webinar is the part of Aero India 21 series of webinars which is being organised to boost defence cooperation and engagements with friendly foreign countries.

## **2. Cipla partners with Premier Medical Corporation to launch rapid antigen test kits in India**

- Drug major Cipla on Wednesday announced its partnership with the Premier Medical Corporation Private Limited for commercialisation of the rapid antigen test kits for coronavirus (COVID-19) in India.
- "In this collaboration, Cipla will be responsible for the marketing and distribution of the Rapid Antigen Detection Test for the qualitative detection of SARS-CoV-2 antigen that will be manufactured by Premier Medical Corporation Private Limited," Cipla said in a regulatory filing.
- The company said it will commence supply of rapid point-of-care nasopharyngeal swab tests from this week. The test will be marketed under the brand name 'CIPtest.'

## **3. ONGC opens 8th hydrocarbon producing basin of India**

- ONGC opened its 8th hydrocarbon producing basin of India in West Bengal.
- ONGC chairman and managing director Shashi Shanker was present at the event held at the production site of Asokenagar, around 50 km from state capital Kolkata.
- "The well Asokenagar-1 was completed as an oil producer under early-monetization plan issued by the Government of India," it said.
- With this ONGC has discovered and put to production seven out of the eight hydrocarbon producing basins of India, covering 83 per cent of established oil and gas reserves.
- ONGC is India's largest oil and gas producer contributing 72 per cent of the country's hydrocarbon production.
- The Bengal basin is spread across nearly 1.22 lakh square kilometres, with nearly two-third of it falling under the waters of the Bay of Bengal.

## **4. IISF 2020 to provide platform for dissemination of information related to science & technology**

- Union Science and Technology Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has stressed that science must become a public movement in the country through promotion of achievements in various fields by Indian scientists.

- He termed the year 2020 as a science year for making beneficial steps for the humankind. Appreciating the role of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for supporting the scientists and building an ecosystem for development of the science and technology sector in the country.

### **5. OPPO Sets Up Its First 5G Innovation Lab In India**

- OPPO India has announced the set up of a 5G innovation lab at its Hyderabad R&D center. The new lab will deepen the development of core product technologies for 5G ecosystem and accelerate its rollout in the country.
- Building on its current positioning to be an enabler of technological advancements in India, OPPO will also be setting up 3 more functional labs dedicated to Camera, Power & Battery, and Performance, in order to continue fulfilling its commitment to ground-breaking innovation.

### **6. PM Modi to inaugurate 6th edition of India International Science Festival 2020**

- Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan will also be present at the event. According to the website narendramodi.in, launched in 2015, the IISF is a festival to encourage science and technology. The goal is to connect the public with research, celebrate the joy of science and demonstrate how Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) will offer solutions for improving lives.
- The aim of the IISF 2020 is to help young people build skills in the 21st century with an emphasis on science awareness, innovation, critical thought, problem-solving and teamwork. The long-term goal is to inspire students to research and work in the science field.
- Minister said that the International Science Festival will begin on 22 December and will end on 25 December.

### **7. ISRO to open Regional Academic Centre for Space at IIT Varanasi**

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will establish a Regional Academic Centre for Space at IIT-Varanasi to facilitate short and long term projects at the institute.
- ISRO and the Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Wednesday and the move can help propel the culture of research and development among students, the statement said.

### **8. Centre starts contest for strengthening digital network platform 'CoWIN' for Covid-19 vaccine distribution**

- The government launched a technology contest to invite solutions from IT companies and start-ups to strengthen the digital platform CoWIN, which will be used for rolling out and scaling up Covid vaccine distribution across the country
- The government is enhancing use of the Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) system, which provides real-time information on vaccine stocks and storage temperatures across all cold chain points in the country to address the needs for distribution and tracking of Covid-19 vaccine.

## **9. Cabinet approves 100% FDI in DTH services**

- The Union Cabinet approved revised guidelines for Direct-to-Home (DTH) broadcasting services, allowing 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) as well as increasing the licence period to 20 years.
- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Prakash Jaavdekar said, "Due to our I&B guidelines, this field was not getting the benefit of 100 per cent FDI."

## **Books and Awards**

### **1. Communications Minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad presents Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill Excellence Awards**

- Shri. Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Communications and Electronics & IT and Shri. Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, Minister of State for Communications and Electronics & IT, presented the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Telecom Skill Excellence Awards including cash award of Rs 50,000 and Rs 30,000 respectively, to both awardees on 18.12.2020 in the presentation ceremony organized in Electronics Niketan, CGO Complex, New Delhi, in presence of Members of Digital Communication Commission, AS(T) and other senior officers of DoT.
- The award was named after Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji to commemorate his birth centenary.
- The nominations were called for the first time for year 2018. The winners of the award were declared by Dept. of Telecom on 8.9.2020.

### **2. US President confers 'Legion of Merit' award to PM Modi**

- The President of the United States of America conferred the highest decoration, The Legion of Merit, Degree Chief Commander, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday.
- In a statement Ministry of External Affairs said, the award is in recognition of the Prime Minister's steadfast leadership and vision for India's emergence as a global power and exemplary contribution made by him for the advancement of the India-United States strategic partnership and promoting global peace and prosperity.


### 3.12<sup>th</sup> GRIHA Summit concludes with awards ceremony and valedictory session

- The second day of the 12th GRIHA Summit witnessed the presentation of the rating and exemplary performance awards to SVAGRIHA, GRIHA and GRIHA LD projects.
- The theme of the Summit was “Rejuvenating Resilient Habitats”. It is the annual flagship event organized by GRIHA Council in association with ‘key stakeholders in the construction industry’ to discuss and deliberate on the furtherance of Sustainable Habitat Development in India.
- Shri Habeeb Khan congratulated the initiative by GRIHA and TERI, stating that the pandemic has not broken the world, but shown us how broken it actually was, making the theme of the Summit valid and pertinent in the current time and context. He went on to add that it was time to introspect and consider what the way forward should be and that conferences like the GRIHA Summit help fuel thought in the right direction.

**BANK ALL EXAMS - BOOKS**

**IBPS | SBI | RBI Bank  
Pre & Main Exams**

**9 Comprehensive Books**



**₹1350/-**

### 4. Vineet Agarwal takes over as new ASSOCHAM President

- Managing Director of logistics major Transport Corporation of India Limited Vineet Agarwal has taken over as the new President of The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), the industry body said on Monday. He replaces Niranjana Hiranandani, Co-Founder and MD, Hiranandani Group of Companies.
- Sumant Sinha, Chairman and Managing Director of ReNew Power, is the new Senior Vice-President of Assocham.

### 5. Devendra Fadnavis releases book 'Ayodhya' written by Madhav Bhandari

- Former Maharashtra Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly Devendra Fadnavis released the book 'Ayodhya' written by BJP's State Vice President Madhav Bhandari in Mumbai.



Speaking On the occasion, he said that the fight to build a Ram temple is a fight to awaken the Hindu community and the book will be used as a reference book.

- Mr. Madhav Bhandari said, he has tried to bring the truth about this subject to the world and there is a need for further study on this subject.

## **SPORTS**

### **1. Sports Ministry approves inclusion of four indigenous games in Khelo India Youth Games**

- The Sports Ministry has approved the inclusion of four indigenous sports, including Gatka and Kalaripayattu, in the Khelo India Youth Games 2021, scheduled to take place in Haryana.
- The other two games included are Thang-Ta and Mallakhamba.
- Speaking about the decision, Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju said, “India has a rich heritage of indigenous sports, and it is a priority for the sports ministry to preserve, promote and popularise these games.” “There is no better platform than the Khelo India Games where athletes of these games can compete.

### **2. Indian boxers win 9 medals in Cologne World Cup**

- Indian boxers bagged nine medals including three gold, two silver and four bronze at the Cologne Boxing World Cup which ended in Cologne, Germany yesterday. Amit Panghal won gold in men's category while Manisha Moun and Simranjit Kaur won gold in Women's category.
- In the women's category, AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships bronze medallist Simranjit Kaur Baath beat the local German opponent Maya Kleinhans hands down with clear punches in the final. The Indian reduced the fighting distance successfully against the taller opponent and won the bout by a split decision taking the gold in the 60kg category.

### **3. Lewis Hamilton crowned BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2020**

- Lewis Hamilton named BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2020; Marcus Rashford receives Panel Special Award after leading successful campaign to extend provision of free school meals for vulnerable children; Liverpool named Team of the Year and Jurgen Klopp wins Coach of the Year award
- Hamilton, who won the same award in 2014, won the overall vote ahead of Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson in second, while Sky Sports Racing ambassador Hollie Doyle came third.

### **4. Mate Pavic, Bruno Soares win men's doubles title at 2020 US Open**

- Croatia's Mate Pavic and Brazil's Bruno Soares captured the US Open men's doubles crown with a 7-5, 6-3 win over eighth seeds Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands and Nikola Mektic of Croatia on Thursday.
- In their first Grand Slam men's doubles final as a team, Pavic did damage with his powerful serve while Soares did well to force their opponents into difficult shots and they sealed the win when Mektic sent a backhand volley into the net.

## **OBITUARIES**

### **1. Senior Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh ideologue M G Vaidya passes away**

- Senior Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) ideologue M G Vaidya died. He was 97.
- "Vaidya died of old age complications," Dr Harshwardhan Mardikar, who treated him over the last five days in hospital, said.
- A former editor of pro-RSS Marathi daily 'Tarun Bharat', Vaidya had also served as RSS spokesperson and bouddhik pramukh (intellectual wing chief).

### **2. Veteran Congress leader Motilal Vora passes away at a private hospital in New Delhi**

- Veteran Congress leader Motilal Vora passed away at a private hospital in New Delhi today. He was 93. Mr. Vora was detected with COVID-19 in October but he recovered and got discharged. Two days back, he was admitted to the hospital with a urinary infection.
- Motilal Vora was elected to the Madhya Pradesh Assembly six times and served twice as Chief Minister of the State. He was Member of Rajya Sabha four times and the Lok Sabha for one term. He also served as Governor of Uttar Pradesh and Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Civil Aviation.

### **3. Pakistani human rights activist Karima Baloch found dead in Canada**

- Karima Baloch, an activist, who had been vocal about Pakistan Army and government atrocities in Balochistan, has been found dead in Toronto, Canada.
- Toronto Police had requested for public assistance in locating Karima Baloch who had went missing on Sunday. However, her family has now confirmed that Karima's body has been found.
- Karima Baloch, a famous personality in Balochistan, is believed to be the pioneer of women activism there. She was named as one of the world's 100 most "inspirational and influential" women in 2016.

#### **4. Renowned Malayalam poet-activist Sugathakumari dies of Covid-19 complications**

- Acclaimed Malayalam poet and environmental activist Sugathakumari passed away Wednesday following Covid-19 complications at the Medical College Hospital in Thiruvananthapuram. She was 86.
- Sugathakumari was an influential voice in the field of Malayalam literature with her works garnering all the major accolades on offer in the country. She was a recipient of the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award, Kendra Sahitya Akademi award, Odakkuzhal award, Ezhuthachan award among others.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

#### **1. National Mathematics Day observed on 22 December**

- National Mathematics Day is celebrated on December 22 to commemorate the birth anniversary of India's mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- For the budding mathematicians of the country, who want to pursue the field but are unable to continue their higher education due to lack of funds, here is a list of institutes and organisations which offer scholarships and fellowships for students aspiring to make a career in mathematics.

#### **2. National Farmers Day 2020: 23 December**

- India observes National Farmers Day or Kisan Divas on December 23 every year to mark the birth anniversary of fifth Prime Minister Choudhary Charan Singh. Choudhary Charan Singh, regarded as a farmer's leader, introduced many policies to improve their lives. He was born in Noorpur of Uttar Pradesh's Hapur.
- He served as the Prime Minister of India between July 28, 1979 and January 14, 1980. People refer to him as the 'champion of India's peasants'.

#### **3. Amit Shah to head panel to mark Netaji's 125th birth anniversary**

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The panel will decide on the activities for a one-year long commemoration celebrations starting January 23.
- The members of the commemoration committee will include experts, historians, authors, family members of Netaji as well as eminent persons associated with Azad Hind Fauj or INA. It will also lend guidance to the commemoration activities in Delhi, Kolkata and other places associated with Netaji and Azad Hind Fauj, both in India as well as overseas, government officials said.

#### **4. National Consumer Rights Day 2020: 24 December**

- National Consumer Rights Day is observed on December 24, every year in India. The Consumer Protection Act 1986 came into effect on this day. Safeguarding rights of a consumer is an important aspect for any nation. The CPA 1986 was enforced so that consumers can be more aware of their entitled rights.
- This day provides opportunity for every consumer against different kinds of exploitation, such as deficiency in services, and unfair trade practices and defective goods. Effective safeguards, the need to highlight the consumer rights movement and its significance are the main points of focus on this day.

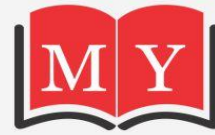


# India's No.1 Exam Prep App

Bank, SSC, Railways  
Competitive Exams

 Download Now

Download Now



Make My Exam

Powered by IBT

- Job Alerts • Daily Quiz • Free PDF's
- Videos • Test Series • Current Affairs

# Now Govt. Job is in Your Hand !!

India's #1  
Educational App

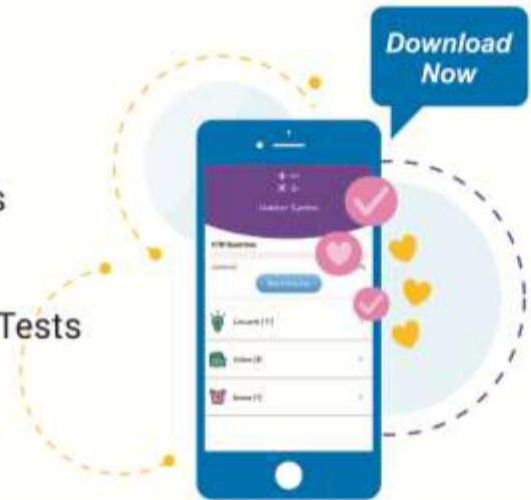
makemyexam



make **MY** exam



- 1000+ Videos
- 2000+ Concepts
- 3000+ Quizes
- 1000+ Practice Tests
- 500+ PDF



## India's Best Video Course for Competitive Exams by IBT Faculties

### BANK ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

395 Videos

₹3749/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### RAILWAY ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

602 Videos

₹3499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### SSC ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹3599/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### SBI CLERK (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### RAILWAY NTPC

VIDEO COURSE

602 Videos

₹2699/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### SSC CGL EXAM

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹2999/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### SBI PO (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### RBI ASSISTANT (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

### SSC CHSL EXAM

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹2999/-



Videos by IBT Experts